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ABSTRACT

This second edition of the ASHE Reader on Community Colleges addresses the need to examine community, junior, and technical colleges in the United States. It offers articles, book chapters, and papers that reflect the current research and thinking on two-year colleges. The reader is institutional in focus for the following reasons: two year colleges comprise the largest segment of higher education; community and junior colleges provide specific academic, vocational, developmental, and community education programs that are the primary domain of two-year colleges; and the students in these institutions differ in a number of ways: they are often older, commute, and are more practically and vocationally oriented. The reader suggests that the terms community college, junior college, technical college, and two-year college all have a commonality. Each term speaks to different purposes, yet there has been little examination on whether this variation is greater within community colleges, or between them. The reader includes articles and papers in the following areas: (1) History, Philosophy, and Purpose; (2) Organization, Administration, and Finance; (3) Programs and Services; (4) Students; (5) Professional Staff; (6) Leadership; and (7) Social Role and Future Perspectives. At the end of each section, there is a bibliography for further reading. (NB)